several other Heads of States and Government, Prime Minister's Special Envoys and other high dignitaries have held discussions in various Capitals of the world. However, the divergence in the attitude of the two bellingerents remains wide and there is yet no consensus concerning the steps to be taken to put an end to the conflict.

(b) Government of India have repeatedly stated they want to see an end to this unfortunate conflict which has caused tremendous loss of human life and property. There have been continuous exchanges of views with other interested Governments in an effort to find a basis for an amicable settlement to the conflict.

Pakistan Foreign Minister's visit to New Delhi

***1068. SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Foreign Minister of Pakistan visited New Delhi on the 9th July, 1984; and

(b) if so, what issues were discussed with him?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) and (b) The Foreign Minister of Pakistan arrived at Palam airport at 8.30 a.m. on the 9th July to proceed half-an-hour later to Male with our Foreign Minister in the latter's special flight. The consultations during the flight were informal and of a general nature and covered several aspects of Indo-Pakistan relations.

Security preparations by Sri Lanka

@@1069. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:
SHRI ARABINDA GHOSH:
SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:
SHRI T. THANGABALU:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the proposed military purchases as also invitation to the Israeli intelligence Agency, the dreaded MOSSAD by the Sri Lankan Government to prepare a security master plan for the region as a whole, the stationing of the SAS, the crack British unit to train forces for sombat; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHMAN): (a) Government are aware that Sri Lanka has sought the services of security and intelligence experts from Britain and Israel.

(b) Government of India have consistently opposed foreign military presence in the South Asian region. They view with concern the induction of foreign security and intellegence personnel in an area so close to our shores. Government are of the view that the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka should and can be resolved through a political dialogue.

Issurance of passports to Haji Mastan and Sukur Narain Bakhia

@@@1070. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given clearance for issuing passports to Haji Mastan and Sukur Narain Bakhia for going abroad;

(b) whether it is a fact that their passports had been impounded due to number of smuggling charges against them; and

@Previously Unstarred Question No. 574, transferred from the 27th July, 1984.
@@Previously Unstarred Question No. 576 transferred from the 27th July, 1984.
@@@Previously Unstarred question No. 577, transferred from the 27th July, 1984.

(c) if so, the reasons for issuing the passports to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

Money spent on a Dutch Television Journalist

@1071. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:
SHRI ARABINDA GHOSH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have spent over Rupees one lakh on a Dutch television journalist who came to New Delhi in April to interview the Prime Minister; and

(b) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) Under the regular Ministry of External Affairs programme of invitations to prominent media personalities from abroad, Mr. Dirk Dragstra, editor of the Asian Affairs of the NOS Television Corporation of the Netherlands, visited India in March 1984 for ten days. In the course of his visit, he conducted an interview with the Prime Minister and also met a number of officials in different parts of the country.

The expenditure incurred on his visit was Rs. 35,136/- (Rupees thirty five thousand one hundred thirty six only).

(b) The visit of Mr. Dragstra has proved useful in acquainting the Dutch public with India's modern developmets and achievements.

Vilification campaign against Indians in Nigeria

@@1072. SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT:
SHRI BHIM RAJ:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a press report which appeared in the "Times of India" of June 13, 1984, to the effect that 50,000 Indians living in Nigeria are worried over the growing anti-Indian feeling and the campaign of vilification launched against them;

(b) whether the Government of India have taken up the matter with the Nigeria Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Special Envoy of the Prime Minister who visited Nigeria towards the end of May, 1984, had brought up the matter during discussions with the Nigerian Head of State, and with other Nigerain officials. Our High Commission in Nigeria has also taken up this issue with the Nigerian Government at various levels, and at various times. It has been reported that adverse press comments in Nigeria have greatly abated in recent months. Among the Nigerian officials and Government there does not appear to be any anti-Indian feeling, nor has any campaign of vilification been launched.

@Previously Unstarred Question No. 578, transferred from the 27th July, 1984.

@@Previously Unstarred Question No. 582, transferred from the 27th July, 1984.